

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 MCE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AF-10
 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NRC-05 OES-07 ERDA-05 /138 W
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R 190645Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6208
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USUN NEW YORK 1111

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 5170

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, BG, UN
SUBJECT: BANGLADESH OBJECTIVES AT UNGA

REFS: A. DACCA 5006 (NOTAL); B. DACCA 4911

1. PROFESSOR SHAMSUL HUQ, ADVISOR (I.E., MINISTER) FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 18
OUTLINED THE BASIC BANGLADESH OBJECTIVES AT THE 32ND
UNGA SESSION AS:

 A. TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR BANGLADESH MEMBERSHIP ON
THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR THE 1979-80 TERM (REFTEL B).
BANGLADESH WILL ALSO SEEK MEMBERSHIP TO THE UNITED
NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
(UNIDO), WISHES TO REPLACE BOLIVIA ON THE UN BOARD OF AUDITORS
AND WILL ASK FOR A POSITION ON THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL
SERVICE COMMISSION;

 B. TO SPONSOR OR CO-SPONSOR A RESOLUTION "TO ENSURE"
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THAT NO NUCLEAR ASSISTANCE BE MADE AVAILABLE TO SOUTH AFRICA
AND RHODESIA, TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF ARMS TO THOSE COUNTRIES
AND TO STRENGTHEN EXISTING SANCTIONS;

 C. TO SPONSOR OR CO-SPONSOR A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR
CREATION OF A NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE IN SOUTH AND SOUTH
EAST ASIA.

2. HUQ ALSO INDICATED THAT IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OCTOBER 5, HE WOULD "RATHER" TO PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE FARAKKA TALKS WITH INDIA AND WOULD "RAISE" THE MARITIME BOUNDARY ISSUE. HUQ SAID HE REGRETTED THAT THE BANGLADESH PROPOSAL FOR BOUNDARY DEMARCATION HAS NOT BEEN RECORDED IN THE COMPOSITE INFORMAL NEGOTIATING TEXT (CINT) REPORT OF THE RECENT LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE DESPITE SUPPORT FROM 27 NATIONS.

3. ACCORDING TO OTHER PRESS ACCOUNTS, HUQ WILL ADDRESS THE ASIA SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 28 AND THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS OCTOBER 4. IN WASHINGTON, IT IS REPORTED THAT HE WILL SPEAK TO THE WOODROW WILSON INSTITUTE (WHERE HE HAS BEEN A RESIDENT SCHOLAR) AND MEET WITH THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE. LATER HE WILL ADDRESS THE INSTITUTE OF SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY. HUQ IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO DACCA OCTOBER 14.

4. COMMENT: AS MENTIONED IN REFTTEL A, BANGLADESH WILL OUT OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC NECESSITY SUPPORT THE ARAB POSITIONS ON MIDDLE EASTERN ISSUES AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE GENERALLY MODERATE SUPPORTER OF MOST THIRD WORLD CONCERNS.

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